

SANCTUS FRANCISCUS ASSISIENSIS

By A. F. GEYSER, S. J.
Campion, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin

(This is a translation of a portion of "St. Francis of Assisi," a poem by Frances Reubelt. It is published with Miss Reubelt's permission.)

Illa aetate, ut nunc, bona cuncta perire putantur.
Desperant homines maesti, expectare recusant
Fata benigna. Fides misere evanescit ubique;
Nulla exstat regio, careat quae sorte maligna.

Nam Dubium et Maeror calles caligine foedant;
Percutit et Terror tristissima pectora multa;
Assisiensis tunc Franciscus verba salutis
Ore pio fundens, animis Spem reddit apricam.

Multis ante annis Francisci verba potenter
Demonstrant homines, volucresque, ferasque feroces
Debere inter se sociari; mutuum amorem
Summis et minimis numquam non esse colendum.

Sanctus Franciscus, cunctorum hominum optime amatus,
Omnia amat pariter; res magnas, resque minores.
Est frater solis, nitidae est frater quoque lunae,
Atque agni teneri, truciū fraterque luporum.

Vox Sancti, veluti gladius, succurrere gestit
Europae veteris terris maribusque potenter,
Sancta Fides et Spes—quas Christus cordibus adfert—
Integrae ut maneant per saecula postera cuncta.



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